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National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys, Inc.  
Leading the Way in Special Needs and Elder Law

ESTATE JUDICIARY

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BY: .....

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Dear Commissioner Nixon:

I am delighted to inform you that at the November, 2007 board meeting, the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys (NAELA) Board of Directors voted unanimously to endorse the Uniform Adult Guardianship and Protective Proceedings Jurisdiction Act (UAGPPJA). NAELA is a non-profit association that assists lawyers, bar organizations and others who work with older clients and their families. Established in 1987, the Academy provides a resource of information, education, networking and assistance to those who deal with the many specialized issues involved with legal services to the elderly and people with special needs.

As you know, NAELA was actively engaged in the drafting process of the UAGPPJA by sending representatives to the meetings and providing numerous comments on the drafts. NAELA strongly supports the UAGPPJA because it is designed to help solve the increasing problems of multiple jurisdiction across state line, problems relating to transfer, and out of state recognition issues that negatively impact our clients.

Contested cases in which courts in more than one state have jurisdiction are becoming more frequent. There is a need for an effective mechanism for resolving multi-jurisdictional disputes. Article 2 of the UAGPPJA is intended to provide such a mechanism. Oftentimes, problems arise even absent a dispute. In most states, all of the procedures for an original appointment must be repeated, a time consuming and expensive prospect. Article 3 of the UAGPPJA is designed to provide an expedited process for making such transfers, thereby avoiding the need to re-litigate incapacity and whether the guardian

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